GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:321
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2001
SWAYAMSIDDHA PROGRAMME
JASWANT SINGH YADAV;SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched Swayamsiddha Programme to empower women;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of schemes amalgamated in the said Programme;

(c) the main objectives and aims of the said Programme and the extent to which it is likely to empower women; and

(d) the time by which the said Programme is likely to be started?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a),(b),(c)&(d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PART (a), (b), (c) & (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 321 FOR 14.8.2 REGARDING SWAYAMSIDDHA PROGRAMME

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & c) Indira Mahila Yojana (IMY),which was being implemented in 238 blocks in the country, has been recast and expanded as Swayamsidha (IWEP).

The long-term objective is the all-round empowerment of women, especially socially and economically, by ensuring their direct access to, and control over, resources through a sustained process of mobilisation and convergence of all the on-going sectoral programmes.

The immediate objectives are the following:

(i) Establishment of self-reliant women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs);

(ii) Creation of confidence and awareness among members of SHGs regarding women's status, health, nutrition, education, sanitation and hygiene, legal rights, economic upliftment and other social, economic and political issues;

(iii) Strengthening and institutionalizing the savings habit in rural women and their control over economic resources;

(iv) Improving access of women to micro credit;

(v) Involvement of women in local level planning; and

(vi) Convergence of services of DWCD and other Departments.

One scheme, Mahila Samriddhi Yojana (MSY), which aimedat encouraging thrift among women through tiny savings, has been merged with Swayamsidha.

It is envisaged to form 53,100 SHGs to benefit 9,29,250 women.

(d) Swayamsidha was approved on 27.2.2001 and the Programme has already been started.